



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

THOMAS J. VILSACK
GOVERNOR

STATE CAPITOL
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319
515 281-5211
FAX 515-281-6611

SALLY J. PEDERSON
LT. GOVERNOR

Dear High School Administrator:

The *Iowa Governor's High School Water Summit and Scholarship Program* will be held for the first time November 16, 2006 at the State Capitol, Des Moines, IA. This event is being held to develop future leaders who understand the importance of protecting water quality and who have an awareness of the broad array of challenges facing communities in protecting Iowa's water resources today and in the future.

The one day event is targeted to high school students who will be juniors and seniors in the fall of 2006. Participants will learn more about water quality and its relationship to quality of life, economic viability of communities, recreation and public health; voice their perspectives; strategize on actions to be taken and develop solutions for protecting Iowa's water resources. It will provide a venue for young people to network with each other as well as professionals from water utilities, environmental agencies and associations, health professionals, engineers and others.

Students compete for the opportunity to attend the Summit. Those chosen will participate in a creative learning experience designed to:

- increase their understanding of the challenges to protecting Iowa's water resources and the connection to economic development, public health, recreation and overall quality of life;
- provide a forum to build relationships with peers, mentors and other professionals;
- develop the capacity to become thoughtful and informed leaders; and
- polish their skills in writing, public speaking, and problem solving.

Iowans have long shared a commitment to ensuring a safe natural environment for all Iowans, and future generations. Please encourage students who will be juniors or seniors this fall to compete in the *Iowa Governor's High School Water Summit*. Details of the competition and deadlines are enclosed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Tom J. Vilsack".

Thomas J. Vilsack
Governor